

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-30 are currently pending. Claims 1, 5, 9, 28 and 30 have been amended. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, in light of the above amendments, as well as the amendments remarks contained in the December 23, 2004 Amendment and Response, is respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 9 has been amended to change their dependency from Claim 2, which was canceled in the Amendments filed December 23, 2004, to Claim 1, which was amended to incorporate the subject matter of former Claim 2. Claim 5 has been amended to insert a period at the end of the claim. Claim 28 has been amended to recite its dependency on Claim 26, which was inadvertently deleted in the December 23, 2004 Amendment and Response. Claim 30 has been amended to clearly identify that the word --toward-- has been added to replace the word "towards." While the inclusion of this word was contained in the Amendments filed December 23, 2004, Applicants mistakenly did not underline the word to indicate that it was added. Accordingly, Applicants have underlined this word in Claim 30 to clearly indicate that this word has been added to the claim.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks and the amendments and remarks contained in the December 23, 2004 Amendment and Response, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims, as currently presented, define patentable subject matter over the art of record. An early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

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Docket No. 1948-4823AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1948-4823.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1948-4823.

Respectfully submitted,
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